

USN 10/066,595

Art Unit: 1723

Amendments to Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

1.(cancelled)

2.(cancelled)

3.(cancelled)

4.(cancelled)

5.(cancelled)

6.(cancelled)

7.(cancelled)

8.(cancelled)

9.(cancelled)

10.(cancelled)

11.(cancelled)

12.(currently amended) An apparatus ~~mixer~~ for ~~mixing~~ adding a color syrup additive to a tempered, lipid-based formulation, comprising:

a storage tank containing said tempered lipid-based formulation;

a mixing body for evenly mixing said color syrup additive into said tempered, lipid-based formulation to form a mixture, said mixing body having an outlet tube for said mixture;

a feed tube coupled to said storage tank for feeding said tempered lipid-based formulation into said mixing body in a continuous stream;

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a reservoir for said color syrup additive;
an injection port located at a position within the interior of said feed tube so as to be
surrounded by said tempered lipid-based formulation as it flows into said mixing body; and
a cyclically operating pump connected to said reservoir for intermittently supplying said
color syrup additive from said reservoir to said injection port as said tempered, lipid-based
formulation flows through said feed tube so as to deposit discrete quantities of said color syrup
additive into said continuous stream of said tempered, lipid-based formulation;
~~wherein said mixer comprises a mixing body within which said color syrup additive is~~
~~thoroughly mixed with said tempered, lipid-based formulation; and a feed tube and an outlet tube~~
~~leading into and away from said mixing body, respectively;~~
~~a cyclically operating pump connected to a reservoir for said color syrup additive; and an~~
~~injection port located in said feed tube in a position so as to deposit discrete quantities of said~~
~~color syrup additive into the center of said feed tube while said tempered, lipid-based~~
~~formulation flows therethrough;~~
~~whereby a plurality of spaced apart discrete quantities of said color syrup additive are axially~~
~~located in said flowing continuous stream of lipid-based formulation as it enters said mixing~~
~~body through said feed tube; and~~
~~whereby and said lipid-based formulation mixture is evenly colored colored by said color syrup~~
~~additive as it exits said mixing body at said outlet tube.~~

13.(currently amended) The ~~mixer apparatus~~ of claim 12, wherein said mixing body is cylindrical, and comprises a plurality of fingers directed radially inwardly from the circumference thereof, and a plurality of interposed circular discs each having a diameter less than the diameter of the mixing body mounted axially along the length of the mixing body.

14.(currently amended) The ~~mixer apparatus~~ of claim 12, wherein said mixing body is a jacketed ribbon blender.

15.(currently amended) The ~~mixer apparatus~~ of claim ~~11~~12, wherein said cyclically operating pump is a proportional pump.

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16.(new). The apparatus of claim 12, wherein said injection port is centrally located within said feed tube.